

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

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USIA-15 EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /131 W

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R 311928Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7198

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, GW, SF

SUBJECT: OGBU BONN VISIT AND GERMAN RELATIONS WITH
AFRICA AND PORTUGAL

REF: (A) USUN 2926; (B) USUN 2739; (C) USUN 3013;

(D) PRETORIA 3050; (E) BONN 12180 (F) BONN 11338

SUMMARY: FRG FONOFF IS SATISFIED WITH VISIT OF UN
APARTHEID COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN OGBU AND IS OPTIMISTIC
THAT WIDE-SPREAD AFRICAN OPPOSITION TO FRG UN ENTRY
WILL NOT MATERIALIZE. THIS MESSAGE ALSO DESCRIBES
EFFECTS OF RECENT FRELIIMO CONTROVERSY ON GERMAN
RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL AND AFRICA. END SUMMARY.

1. FONOFF AFRICAN, UN AND PORTUGAL DESK OFFICERS HAVE
BRIEFED US ON THE APPARENT OUTCOME TO DATE OF SPD
PARTY TALKS IN BONN WITH FRELIIMO REPS, OGBU'S SUBSEQUENT
VISIT TO BONN, AND RESULTANT CONSEQUENCES FOR FRG
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RELATIONS WITH AFRICA AND PORTUGAL. THE STORY APPEARS

TO BE ONE OF AFRICAN EXPECTATIONS STRONGLY AROUSED BY THE FRELIMO VISIT, DEFLATED FOLLOWING SUBSEQUENT FRG AFFIRMATION OF ITS LONG-STANDING POLICY IN THESE AREAS AND BASICALLY SALVED BY SOME GERMAN GESTURES TOWARD OGBU AND THE AFRICANS.

2. OUR SOURCES EMPHASIZE THAT THE WISCHNEWSKI INVITATION TO FRELIMO WAS MADE ON BEHALF OF THE SPD FOREIGN POLICY OFFICE AND IN NO WAY INVOLVED THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT. NO FRG OFFICIALS PARTICIPATED DURING THE VISIT IN THEIR GOVERNMENT CAPACITY. WE ARE TOLD THAT THE TALKS BETWEEN WISCHNEWSKI AND FRELIMO VICE PRESIDENT MARCELLINO DOSSCANTOS WERE DIFFICULT BECAUSE THE SPD OFFICIALS ATTEMPTED DURING THE PRIVATE TALKS BASICALLY TO FOLLOW THE GOVERNMENT LINE, INCLUDING THAT ON THE CABORRA BASA ISSUE.

3. A PUBLIC FLAP RESULTED FROM WISCHNEWSKI'S STATEMENTS, INCLUDED IN A "JOINT COMMUNIQUE" TO THE EFFECT THAT THE FRG SHOULD PROVIDE NO FURTHER MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO PORTUGAL AS LONG AS LISBON CARRIED ON ITS PRESENT AFRICAN POLICY, AND THAT PORTUGAL SHOULD LEAVE ITS AFRICAN COLONIES AND THUS STOP BLOCKING THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. FONOFP REPS CONSIDER THE WISCHNEWSKI REMARKS PARTICULARLY UNFORTUNATE AS THEY SAY: (A) BONN HAS NOT BEEN SUPPLYING PORTUGAL WITH SUCH EQUIPMENT (DUE TO A STILL UNRESOLVED CONTROVERSY OVER END USE CLAUSES); AND (B) THE SPD OFFICIAL'S REMARKS SUGGESTED THAT THE GERMANS HAD, IN FACT, BEEN SO SUPPLYING PORTUGAL.

4. AS A RESULT OF THE FRELIMO VISIT AND WISCHNEWSKI'S COMMENTS, OUR AFRICA DEPARTMENT SOURCES SAY THAT THERE AROSE BLACK AFRICAN EXPECTATIONS OF AN IMMINENT CHANGE IN GERMAN POLICY TOWARD PORTUGAL AND SOUTHERN AFRICA.

5. WHEN THE FRG SUBSEQUENTLY MADE CLEAR THAT ITS POLICIES TOWARD NATO PARTNER PORTUGAL AND TRADING PARTNER SOUTH AFRICA WOULD REMAIN UNCHANGED, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THUS DAMPING AFRICAN EXPECTATIONS OF "ANOTHER HOLLAND IN EUROPE," REPORTS BEGAN TO ARRIVE AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE FROM AFRICAN POSTS OF COMMENTS ABOUT THE FRG SPEAKING OUT OF BOTH SIDES OF ITS MOUTH.

5. GIVEN THE ALREADY EXISTING POTENTIAL FOR AFRICAN OPPOSITION TO FRG UN ENTRY, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ROLLED OUT THE RED CARPET DURING AMBASSADOR OGBU'S FOUR-

DAY VISIT TO BONN (AUGUST 25-28). THE VISIT WAS TREATED ON A PROTOCOL BASIS AS AN UNOFFICIAL VISIT BY A FOREIGN MINISTER, AND FOREIGN MINISTER SCHEEL MET FOR AN HOUR WITH OGBU. AGRICULTURE MINISTER ERTL AND DEVELOPMENT MINISTER EPPLER ALSO MET WITH THE AMBASSADOR AND THE FORMER HOSTED A DINNER FOR HIM AS WELL. FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCE SAID THE FRG WANTED VERY MUCH TO PUT ON A GOOD SHOW FOR OGBU AND HE BELIEVES THE EFFORT SUCCEEDED.

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6. EGER, WHO ATTENDED OGBU'S MEETING WITH SCHEEL, SAID OGBU BEGAN BY SAYING HE HAD NOT COME TO COMPLAIN OR TO EXERT PRESSURE, BUT RATHER TO HAVE AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS. HE WELCOMED THE GERMAN ARMS EMBARGO ON SOUTH AFRICA AND BONN'S EARLIER CONDEMNATION OF APARTHEID. BUT OGBU SAID HE LOOKED TO PRETORIA'S MAIN TRADING PARTNERS TO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO DISCOURAGE TRADE AND INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA. ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL OF NAMIBIA, OGBU ALSO ASKED THE FRG TO CLOSE ITS CONSULATE AT WINDHOEK AND TO CONDEMN AS ILLEGAL SOUTH AFRICAN

PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA.

7. IN REPLY, SCHEEL SAID BONN HAD GOOD RELATIONS WITH NEARLY ALL AFRICAN STATES; HE NOTED THAT THE OAU STATES WERE TOGETHER RUNNING A DM 2.7 BILLION BALANCE OF TRADE SURPLUS WITH THE FRG. HE ALSO MADE CLEAR GERMAN INTENTIONS TO MAINTAIN ITS TRADE AND INVESTMENT RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA, SAYING AN INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRY

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COULD NOT PICK ITS TRADING PARTNERS. ON THE OTHER HAND, SCHEEL STRONGLY ENDORSED THE PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION AND OPPOSED ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AS WELL AS INTERFERENCE--PARTICULARLY BY VIOLENCE--IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. SCHEEL SAID THIS LATTER POINT WENT TO THE ESSENCE OF FRG FOREIGN POLICY. HE MADE CLEAR, AS WE ARE TOLD DID WISCHNEWSKI TO THE FRELIMO REPS, THAT THERE WOULD BE NO FRG SUPPORT OF LIBERATION MOVEMENTS.

8. AS TO NAMIBIA, SCHEEL TOLD OGBU PRIVATELY THAT CHANCELLOR BRANDT INTENDED, DURING HIS UP-COMING UNGA SPEECH, TO SAY THE FRG ACCEPTED THE ADVISORY OPINION OF THE IJC TO THE EFFECT THAT THE CONTINUED PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICA IN NAMIBIA HAS NO LEGAL FOUNDATION. OGBU IS TO BE AUTHORIZED TO CONVEY THIS INFO TO THE NAMIBIA COMMITTEE. ON THE OTHER HAND, SCHEEL SAID THAT BONN COULD NOT CLOSE ITS CONSULATE IN WINDHOEK IN VIEW OF FRG RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR THE SIZEABLE GERMAN POPULATION IN THE AREA. FINALLY, AS SWEETNERS, SCHEEL PLEDGED \$25,000 FOR THE UN TRUST FUND FOR SOUTH AFRICA AND PROMISED TO LOOK INTO A SMALL CONTRIBUTION TO THE NAMIBIA FUND.

9. AS A RESULT OF THE OGBU MISSION, THE FRG EXPECTS NO OPPOSITION FROM THE AFRICANS AT THE UN IN SEPTEMBER, APART FROM THE UNCERTAIN CASE OF GUINEA, WHICH COULD STILL BLOCK ENTRY BY ACCLAMATION. HOWEVER, THE OFFICIAL FRG POLICY AIM IS STILL TO WIN SIMULTANEOUS FRG/GDR UN ENTRY BY ACCLAMATION.

10. AS TO GERMAN RELATIONS WITH PORTUGAL, FONOFF SOUTHERN EUROPE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR MUNZ CLAIMS THEY HAVE NOT BEEN PREJUDICED AS THE PORTUGUESE EMBASSY HERE TREATED THE FRELIMO VISIT STRICTLY AS A NON-OFFICIAL ONE. MUNZ SAYS THE PORTUGUESE EMBASSY MADE NO DEMARCHE WHATEVER.

11. AS A FOOTNOTE, FRG DEVELOPMENT AID MINISTER EPPLER, FROM THE LEFT WING OF THE SPD, HAS BEEN SADDLED WITH

AN UNWANTED INVITATION. EPPLER, WHO HAS OFTEN
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CRITICIZED PORTUGAL'S AFRICA POLICY, RESPONDED TO A TV
QUESTION ABOUT A VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE BY SAYING HE HAD
NO INVITATION TO GO THERE. AN OFFICIAL INVITATION HAS
BEEN EXTENDED TO HIM BY THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT
THROUGH ITS EMBASSY HERE. ACCORDING TO THE AUG 31
FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE, THE AID MINISTER HAS ADVISED
THE PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR THAT HE WOULD BE READY TO
ACCEPT THE INVITATION IF, BEFOREHAND, AN INTERNATIONAL
INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE COULD CHECK OUT REPORTS OF
ALLEGED MASSACRES IN MOZAMBIQUE.

HILLENBRAND

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